

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 236

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SHIELDS.

Read 1st time January 10, 2007, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

1105S.02I

AN ACT

To amend chapter 168, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to mentoring standards for education personnel.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 168, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 168.350, to read as follows:

168.350. 1. The department of elementary and secondary education shall develop standards for high-quality mentoring for beginning teachers and beginning principals no later than June 30, 2008. The standards shall be applicable to all public schools.

2. Such standards shall be established for both of the required years of mentoring under subsection 3 of section 168.021 and shall be based upon, but not be limited to, the following principles:

(1) Every district shall have a teacher-driven mentor program in collaboration with and support of the administration;

(2) Guidance and support are required for all beginning teachers, regardless of when they enter the profession;

(3) Communication between mentors and beginning teachers is open and confidential;

(4) Quality mentors are necessary to establish beginning teachers' trust and respect for their colleagues and profession; and

(5) All staff members provide informal support for beginning teachers.

3. Quality mentor programs shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) An introduction to the cultural environment of the community and the school district;

- 22 **(2) A systemic and ongoing evaluation by all stakeholders;**
23 **(3) An individualized plan for beginning teachers that aligns**
24 **with the district's goals and needs;**
25 **(4) Appropriate criteria for selecting mentors;**
26 **(5) Comprehensive mentor training;**
27 **(6) A complete list of responsibilities for the mentor, beginning**
28 **teacher, and administrators; and**
29 **(7) Sufficient time for mentors to observe beginning teachers and**
30 **for the beginning teachers to observe master teachers.**
- 31 **4. In developing such standards, the department shall involve**
32 **representatives from the state teacher organizations, administration**
33 **and principal organizations, Missouri advisory council for the**
34 **certification of educators as created by section 168.015, Missouri Staff**
35 **Development Council, and from colleges and universities.**

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